

The Washington Times

Entered as second class matter at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (Including Sundays)

By The Washington Times Company, THE MUSEY BUILDING, Penna. Ave.

FRANK A. MUNSEY, President. R. H. TITHERINGTON, Secretary. C. H. POPE, Treasurer.

One Year (Including Sundays), \$1.50. Six Months, \$1.00. Three Months, 50c.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 1917.

A SHOW FOR THE POLICEMEN

Boston has set a civic example in paying the way to give its policemen one day off in seven. There is no good reason why the policeman, like nearly every other city employe, should not have a weekly day of rest.

In Washington more policemen are so badly needed, and the present force, working seven days a week, is so inadequate for the demands made upon it, that the weekly day off looms a long way ahead. But there are other things the Washington policemen are asking from the present Congress which deserve consideration.

They wanted graded increases of pay for all men, they want an extension of their annual leave from twenty to thirty days; they seek allowances for uniforms, and ask changes in existing laws regulating promotions.

The policemen have not been nearly so insistent in pressing their claims as many other Government and District workers. The Washington force is made up of a high grade of men constituting a force of which any city may be proud, and many of the omissions that seem to reflect upon the department's record, really are to be attributed to a painful shortage of men.

KILL THE FLIES NOW!

A fly killed now means a headache for anybody who tries to figure out the number that will not be buzzing around between now and next November. The entomologists make the astounding calculations about the progeny of these pests, and it must be supposed they know. If they're right, or within measurable distance of right, then every housewife should recognize the special desirability of exterminating the left-over flies that thrive all winter on steam heat and other modern conveniences.

It isn't hard to get at them, either, when they are confined to the house. Specialists in this line of extermination say that formaldehyde and sodium salicylate are the best agents. It is recommended to use a pint of water, to which shall be added three spoonfuls of either 40 per cent formaldehyde or powdered sodium salicylate. The rest of the proceeding is thus prescribed:

Nearly fill a glass tumbler with the solution, place over this a piece of blotting paper cut to circular form and somewhat larger in diameter than the tumbler, and over this invert a saucer. Invert the whole device and insert a match or toothpick under the edge of the tumbler to allow access of air. The blotting paper will remain in the proper moist condition until the entire contents of the tumbler have been used, and the strength of the formaldehyde solution will be maintained. A little sugar sprinkled upon the paper will increase the attractiveness of the poison for the flies.

Either of these preparations may be safely used where there are young children, although the addition of sugar is not recommended in such cases.

Now, go ahead and kill 'em off!

COMPULSORY ARBITRATION

With the whole railroad service situation, as affected by the strike threat and the Adamson act of last summer, now in a jumble that has brought in clear sight the possibility of a transportation tie-up, the introduction of a compulsory arbitration bill in Congress is not surprising. The railroad brotherhoods have been bitterly opposed to compulsory arbitration; but the whole course of events in the last half year has been toward that conclusion of matters. The Adamson act of last August was taken into the courts for determination of its constitutionality and interpretation. The employees have been disaffected over the delays in its inauguration, and the danger of a strike has been plainly increasing. That it is more than a possibility is the ominous word that comes from the leaders.

Compulsory arbitration has seemed likely to be avoided by the railroads, at least, if only the employees and the companies would make those mutual concessions necessary to adjustment under the old Erdman act as amended in recent time. The mediation procedure was developed through a period of years most successfully. It prevented many strikes and tie-ups, and was apparently bringing the railroads and their employes to an understanding of each other, and of their joint obligation to the public, which foreshadowed an almost idealistic relationship among these three factors. It was a shock to optimistic people when, last summer, after a long period of what had commonly been regarded as "bluffing" on both sides, the country was brought up standing, face to face with realization that a strike was not only possible, but gravely

menacing. Congress, with more haste than dignity undertook to write into the books a plan for at least temporary salvation of the situation, dictated by the President; but the uncompromising attitude of the labor leaders now supervenes to endanger the whole settlement. The one obvious step left, apparently, is the one Judge Adamson outlines in his compulsory arbitration bill. If organized labor finds itself looking down into a gunbarrel, it may realize that its recent attitude has been a highly calculated invitation to somebody to bring forth just this kind of artillery.

A PREMIUM ON LAW VIOLATION

There is promise that the whole controversy over the titles to certain California oil lands, now in progress for several years, will presently get a thorough airing in Congress. So much of misunderstanding and downright misrepresentation has obscured the merits, that it must be hoped this will prove true.

Uncle Sam cannot afford to inflict a great injustice on well-intentioned people who have invested their money and enterprise in operations that they believed were strictly correct, and that in fact were lawful.

As a matter of fact, a law of Congress actually undertaken, in this matter, to place a premium on violation of law. It is a remarkable case. The controverted lands were withdrawn from entry by President Taft September 27, 1909. It has been protested since then that persons who, in the face of that withdrawal order, proceeded with developments, should not now complain; they took their chances, hoping the order would not be held valid.

The strange feature in this connection is that, nine months after that withdrawal, Congress passed the Pickett bill, which provided that those who had gone ahead with their development work should get their patents, but those who had stopped work, in obedience to the terms of the order, should lose all rights!

This is a remarkable aspect of the controversy. The operator who gave implicit obedience to a doubtful order, is robbed of all his rights; the one who defied the Executive order and the law gets the full reward.

If the withdrawal order was valid, then these lands were withdrawn from the privilege of exploration for mineral or oil. If that was the case, Congress by the Pickett act has rewarded the operator who violated the law and went ahead with his operations in defiance of it. But if the withdrawal order was not valid, and merely suspended the privilege of title-acquisition until Congress should act, then persons who continued their operations after the so-called withdrawal plainly should be protected.

The naval reserves must be insured and made absolutely ample. But the country's demands for oil, and the obligation that the Government shall do no injustice to any class of people, press for a determination fair to these claimants. There is no doubt about the adequacy of the naval oil reserves, no matter how these cases be settled, and the question of naval needs need not prejudice justice by a hair's breadth.

ITALY AND HER CAUSE

The premiers of the entente countries are meeting in Rome, and conjecture deals interestingly with the possible purposes of their conference. That Italy wants more, for its participation in the conflict, especially if she shall henceforward widen the scope of that participation, than has been guaranteed to her in earlier arrangements, is the impression; and it is not improbable. Italy has had some sad experiences in military adventures overseas. The Abyssinian war was a national disaster which, like Britain's Boer conflict, taught the nation a useful lesson, but unlike the Boer war, did not finally end successfully for Italy. The Tripolitan war with Turkey was a costly and dubious affair. Now Italy is in the war, hoping to rectify her boundaries and secure her position about the head of the Adriatic, and desiring further to establish herself in an indubitable posture in the Mediterranean. She cannot afford to be overshadowed in that area by any hostile power. Turkey she is compelled to view as a menace; an Austro-Turkish alliance is a threat; Austria's ambitions on the western coast of the Adriatic endanger Italy. Yet if Italy shall now throw a great force into the Balkans and help the allies win there, Rome may well fear the adjustment they would make, giving Russia a new and more potent weight in Mediterranean affairs. In short, there is a complexity of interests about the Mediterranean basin which may easily give to the Near Eastern question a new phase of peculiar difficulty to Italy, even before the end of this war.

Austro-German-Turk victory would leave Italy at the mercy of a combination especially hostile because of Italy's defection from the triple alliance. Yet on the other side mean success of the entente might mean the rise of Russia in the Mediterranean to a posture hardly less threatening. Small wonder that Italy, then, before plunging into the Balkan campaign in its present disastrous condition, wants assurances as to just what may be expected in future.

Here and There In the News

For years John Jasper, the colored preacher, was one of the most conspicuous of Virginians. His famous sermon on "The Sun Do Move" put him in the class of DeWitt Talmage and the Rev. Sam Jones and the Rev. "Billy" Sunday. It was talked about everywhere, and visitors to Richmond from other parts of the country and from foreign lands went to hear him preach and were invariably impressed with his force and his great earnestness. He preferred the use of big words, and one of the stories told about him is that in one of his sermons he frequently used the word prostration, and after the service one of his oldest parishioners went to him for an explanation. "Brer Jasper," said he, "I notice you use dat wud prostration berry often in your discourse dis mornin', and I'd lak ter know de true significance ob it." "Why, Brother Batus," replied the preacher, "don't you know dat dat is de leading doctrine of de Presbyterian Church."

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Giving of Their Store.

One of the outstanding facts connected with the religious life of the negroes is that they pay for what they get in the way of religious ministrations. They give for the support of their churches and educational institutions an amazing amount considering their general financial condition. Only a few weeks ago one of the smaller conferences "came across" as the street would express it, with \$2,800, thus meeting all the assessments placed upon it by the controlling powers, and on every Sunday they give in all their churches much more abundantly than some of the people on the outside think the Lord has prospered them. It is really wonderful how every little bit counts in the making up of big sums for large adventures.

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The battleship Texas led the American navy in gunnery last year, according to a statement by Secretary Daniels. The Texas was given high score with a mark of 68,854. The Vermont was low with 25,554. Marked increase in accuracy of gun-fire is shown in the report of last year's target practice. The average merit mark, which is determined by both accuracy and speed in firing, was 52,092 last year, as against 29,159 the year before. Rivalry among the vessels in target practice is encouraged by making the gunnery standing of ships a part of the records of their commanding officers.

MANY RUNNING FOR CHAMBER OFFICES

Thirty-nine in Field for Directors' Berths in Trade Body.

SINCLAIR FOR PRESIDENT

Others May Be Placed in Nomination, Though, at Meeting Tuesday.

With thirty-nine candidates in the field, for the ten directorships in the Washington Chamber of Commerce, which are to be filled at the annual election, Tuesday evening, and no less than ten names mentioned for the presidency, interest is increasing hourly as the time for balloting approaches. While A. Leftwich Sinclair is the only candidate for the presidency whose name has been formally placed on the bulletin board of the Chamber, a number of other members have been prominently mentioned as possible candidates. While the by-laws of the Chamber require that the names of candidates for the board of directors shall be posted for not less than two weeks, there is no such rule regarding candidates for presidency and vice presidencies. Any member of the Chamber may nominate any other member on the floor at the annual meeting, without notice. Among those whose names have been mentioned as possible nominees, Sinclair for the honor, are John Dolph, Harry King, Isaac Gans, D. J. Kaufman, E. C. Graham, W. T. Gallier, and John G. Chappes.

Mr. Sinclair's chances for the presidency seem to be excellent, his nomination bearing the signatures of the following prominent members of the Chamber: James F. Oyster, Washington Harper, W. T. Gallier, Carl A. Droop, C. L. Howser, Benjamin W. Guy, Henry H. Glasie, Albert Schulteis, Lewis J. Battle and J. F. Slaven. Schulteis may move up. There seems to be little doubt that Albert Schulteis, now second vice-president, will be promoted to the first vice presidency. Isaac Gans and Harry King both are prominently mentioned as vice presidential candidates, and it is regarded as probable that one or the other will be chosen second vice president. The ballot, which has just been printed, contains the names of forty-one candidates for directorships, but since its issue two of the candidates have withdrawn their names. They are William Berens, Jr., and Carl Droop.

Each Has Strong Backing.

Each of the above named candidates is backed by a group of strong personal friends who are campaigning vigorously in behalf of their respective candidates, and all are well known and popular. There is much speculation as to the probable outcome. All agree that the election Tuesday night will be one of the most exciting in the history of the organization. President P. T. Moran has appointed the following a committee of tellers to make the official count Tuesday evening: Walter B. Guy, chairman; George C. Altman, E. C. Berger, William Beuchter, W. W. Bowie, E. S. Brachman, John Brewer, John Brawner, August Brill, Harris N. Brown, Gus Bucholz, Henry Carroll, Horace Chandler, George Cooke, P. J. Cook, O. J. DeMott, A. M. Fischer, Charles Gaudier, J. Blake Gilpin, Adolph Gule, Harry B. Haller, P. J. Hattigan, William B. Hardy, P. H. Hill, G. F. Johnson, Win. H. Jones, Capt. Thomas Judge, Dr. H. M. Kaufman, George Killian, Phil Kinne, Leo Kolb, Richard Lamb, J. L. Leverton, John H. Lorch, Robert E. Mann, Samuel M. Marks, Fred Mersheimer, Oliver Metzgerott, John Morris, John C. Ronayne, John L. Shedd, Sidney Strauss, Lewis M. Thayer, I. C. Weld, Adam Wenzler.

TO HOLD SMOKER

Congress Heights Body to Meet Tomorrow Evening.

The Public Improvement Association of Congress Heights will hold a banquet and smoker tomorrow night in Loeffler's Hotel. All of the eight teams of the Anacostia Bowling League played their first games on Scott's alleys, in Nicholson's restaurant, last night. The future will be played on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday nights.

Salem Lodge No. 22, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is arranging a special meeting next Thursday evening in the Masonic Hall, when the recently elected officers will be installed. The Rev. Henry T. Cousins, pastor of the Anacostia Baptist Church, resumed his duties this morning following an illness of several weeks. Mineola Tribe, No. 14, Improved Order of Red Men, is arranging a special meeting next Friday night when new officers will be installed. The Ladies' Benevolent Society of St. Teresa's Church is arranging a supper in the church school hall February 15 and 16 next.

ANY ONE CAN BE ART CRITIC TOMORROW

Public Invited to Vote on Merits of Corcoran Exhibition.

WHAT'S ON PROGRAM

Many Interesting Events of Importance Are Scheduled.

Have you ever yearned to be an art critic? Here's your chance. Tomorrow the balloting begins at the Corcoran Gallery of Art for the most popular picture of the midwinter exhibition. Everyone who visits the gallery will be given a ballot. Upon going out each visitor may deposit his ballot in a box which will be opened at the end of one week. The artist who painted the picture that gets the most votes will be given the prize of \$200 awarded by the gallery's committee, on works of art.

The art referendum is attracting wide attention. Art critics and artists are watching it, to determine how closely the public taste conforms to the artistic judgment of the five artists who made up the committee awarding the four prizes for the exhibition. Artists themselves are far from being of one mind about the merits of the exhibition, and the award of the first prize, that of \$2,000 and the Corcoran medal, was severely criticized at a meeting last week of the Arts Club. "The object of the balloting is to get the public to study the pictures," explained C. Powell Mininger, director of the gallery today. "Through this balloting we believe visitors will go carefully into the merits of the pictures, instead of taking a cursory view of them."

The gallery is open daily from 9 to 5 o'clock, and on Sundays from 1:30 to 5 o'clock. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday are "pay days." On all other days admission to the gallery is free. At the end of the week the ballots will be counted by a committee to be made up of artists not connected with the gallery.

Marshall Must Decide

Committee Awaits Answer of Vice President on Inaugural Ball.

Until the members of the inaugural committee have been given an opportunity to put the question squarely to Vice President Marshall, Washington will not know whether or not that executive will be the guest of honor at the proposed "social function" to be given here on March 5, as a substitute for the inaugural ball of past administrations. If Mr. Marshall can be persuaded to attend the affair, with Mrs. Marshall, the committee will immediately begin work on erecting a giant hall, of a temporary character, somewhere on Fourteenth street or in Mt. Pleasant, in which the ball will be held. That there is a big demand for a substitute for the inaugural ball is shown by the letters received today by Col. Robert N. Harper, chairman of the general inaugural committee. The special meeting of the inaugural committee, for 11 o'clock tomorrow morning, has been called off. Chairman Harper said that the matter to have been taken up tomorrow will be discussed at the regular meeting Wednesday.

HURT IN AUTO SMASH

Man and Girl Seriously Injured; Others Shaken Up.

A man and girl were severely injured, four men were badly shaken up, and two automobiles nearly demolished in collision early this morning at Twelfth street and Pennsylvania avenue southeast. Harvey Elise, 434 Massachusetts avenue northwest, received a broken collar bone and minor injuries, and Thomas Pierce, 101, haberdashery avenue southwest, was cut and bruised. The other occupants of the machines, Horace Jones of Bradbury Heights; Thomas Rollins, Arthur Guthrie and Wendell P. Hedrick, were slightly injured.

Elise was driving Miss Pierce in a small machine south along Twelfth street southeast, while Thomas Rollins was driving a limousine along Pennsylvania avenue, west. In the limousine were Guthrie, Hedrick and Elise.

HUNT AUTO BANDITS

Poses Scour Two States for New Kind of Highwaymen.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 7.—Western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio are being scoured for trace of the masked bandits who staged a new variety of automobile hold-up in Tarentum, near here, yesterday, and escaped "with \$9,000, constituting the payroll of the Flaccus Glass Company. The bandits, in a big car, ran into the light, open automobile in which Paymaster Daniel King and Chauffeur Camello Turko were riding with the money. When King and Turko, off guard, stepped into the road to size up the damage the robbers slipped masks over their faces, drew revolvers, and took the glass company's satchel. They speeded off westward. One of the highwaymen was arrested by county detectives, and has been identified by the chauffeur, the police announced.

JAMESTOWN PAPERS HERE.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels has before him today papers showing the physical valuation of the ground and buildings in the Jamestown Exposition tract which have been offered for sale to the navy as a naval base. Senators Swanson and Martin and a delegation from Norfolk and vicinity visited the Navy Department late yesterday to present the papers in support of their claim that a fair value has been set upon the property.

TOOK AUTO, CHARGE, AND WENT TO DANCE

Grocer Identifies Men as Pair Who Held Him Up in Store.

LEWIS INNOCENT, PARENTS ASSERT

Fathers of Both Principals in Model Murder Declare He Did Not Kill Girl.

DEMAND FURTHER PROBE

Elder Colbert Says No Proof Has Been Furnished of Pittsburgher's Guilt.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 7.—While detectives still say they are sure Bernard Westley Lewis, scapegrace son of a wealthy Pittsburgh family, was the murderer of Marie Colbert, pretty model, the parents of both principals scout this theory and demand further investigation. James H. Colbert, aged father of the slain woman, has just broken his silence for the first time since his daughter's body was found in bed in her apartment, clad only in silk pajamas. "I am convinced that my daughter was not killed by Lewis," he announced. "The police have been unable to give me any proof that my daughter died at Lewis' hands or that he had any connection with her death. I demand that the detectives continue their search for the murderer. They must not stop until he has been actually found, and made to pay the law's penalty for his foul crime."

No Proof of Guilt.

And, while Lewis, who committed suicide in an Atlantic City apartment while detectives battered at his door to arrest him on a technical charge in connection with the murder, was being buried in his home in Pittsburgh today, his father, wealthy retired coal magnate, expressed his belief that his son had not committed the crime. The declaration of Lewis' innocence is strengthened by the letter, just made public, which he wrote to a friend on December 17, days before the murder, and which shows he was contemplating suicide then.

Letter to Friend.

The letter was to James S. McFadyen, a stock yards man in Pittsburgh, and one of Lewis' closest friends. It follows: "Before you get this letter I will have paid for my mistakes. You were one real friend upon whom I could rely. This is my last request of you. Please, as long as you live, see that no harm comes to Laura and Betty, and tell Betty about all the pitfalls ahead of her, so she may miss them. I'd do this for you if the tables were reversed, and I ask you in God's name to look out for Laura and Betty. I am only a wreck now, but they must have some peace and happiness. Laura is a wonderful woman, and I'm paying tonight for wrecking her life. For what we've been in the past, Jim, make the road for father and mother, and Laura and Betty as easy as possible. This is my last word. BERNARD."

"Victim of Details."

"There is a possibility," said Marie Colbert's father in discussing this letter, "that this man Lewis was the victim only of some unpleasant details that surrounded his name and that this suicide was made after he had become deranged by the way that he became dragged into it. Unfortunately Marie's mother is extremely ill. For several weeks her condition has been critical. We dared not tell her of the manner of our daughter's death, and for this reason we have been compelled to leave everything drop. We will insist that the police do not drop the case owing to this man's suicide and we will insist upon an investigation into every clue they may have, until they run down the real perpetrator of the crime."

ONCE MODEL HUSBAND

Former Servant of Family Says He Got Wayward in 1913.

ATLANTIC CITY, Jan. 7.—Until three years ago, Bernard W. Lewis was considered a model husband, it developed here today. Letitia Chilton, the English maid formerly employed in the Lewis family, says that Lewis did not become wayward until 1913, when he made frequent trips to Philadelphia, New York, and Atlantic City and was involved with other women and in need of money. "In 1911, when he became involved in a financial mixup and served a day in jail," she said, "Mrs. Lewis left him. They were reconciled about ten months later through their little daughter. After that there were quarrels with other women, and last November the final estrangement occurred. He left Pittsburgh then. "Mrs. Lewis never heard of Marie Colbert."

TARIFF COMMISSIONER.

Prof. Frank W. Taussig, of Harvard, who has written extensively on tariff questions and is a renowned teacher of political economy, has accepted a position on the tariff commission. The other members have not been announced. It is thought that Prof. Taussig probably will be made chairman of the commission. Because of new tariff adjustments after the European war, the work of the commission will be very heavy.

"MOVIE" DIRECTOR ILL.

WILMINGTON, Del., Jan. 7.—Herbert Brenon, noted motion picture director, is seriously ill in a hospital here of typhoid fever. Brenon directed "A Daughter of the Gods," "Neptune's Daughter," and "War Brides," famous films.

Here and There In the News

For years John Jasper, the colored preacher, was one of the most conspicuous of Virginians. His famous sermon on "The Sun Do Move" put him in the class of DeWitt Talmage and the Rev. Sam Jones and the Rev. "Billy" Sunday. It was talked about everywhere, and visitors to Richmond from other parts of the country and from foreign lands went to hear him preach and were invariably impressed with his force and his great earnestness. He preferred the use of big words, and one of the stories told about him is that in one of his sermons he frequently used the word prostration, and after the service one of his oldest parishioners went to him for an explanation. "Brer Jasper," said he, "I notice you use dat wud prostration berry often in your discourse dis mornin', and I'd lak ter know de true significance ob it." "Why, Brother Batus," replied the preacher, "don't you know dat dat is de leading doctrine of de Presbyterian Church."

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